

News Release

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ALAN WILSON STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

For Immediate Release August 18, 2014

Contact: J. Mark Powell

(803) 734-3670 mpowell@scag.gov

Charleston Man Arrested for Traveling to Florence, S.C. for Sex with Minor

(**COLUMBIA**, **S.C.**) South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson announced the arrest of Ian James Willis (DOB: 10/10/1994) of Charleston, S.C. on three (3) counts connected to sexual conduct with a minor. The Florence County Sheriff's Office, a member of the Attorney General's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, made the arrest.

Investigators say Willis communicated electronically with a minor in Florence County for about one month. He sent a photo of his exposed genitalia via social media, as well as sexually explicit text messages.

When Willis travelled to Florence on August 14, 2014 to meet the victim as arranged, he was arrested by officers of the Florence County Sheriff's Office.

Willis was charged with one (1) count of Criminal Solicitation of a Minor (§16-15-342), a felony offense punishable by up to ten (10) years imprisonment, one (1) count of Dissemination of Obscene Material to a Minor (18 or younger) (§16-15-345), a felony offense punishable by up to ten (10) years imprisonment and Sex Offender Registry status, and one (1) count of Attempted Criminal Sexual Conduct with a Minor second degree, (§16-3-655(B)), a felony punishable by up to twenty (20) years in prison and Sex Offender Registry status.

The case will be prosecuted by the Attorney General's Office.

Attorney General Wilson stressed all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until they are proven guilty in a court of law.